

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday 7th February 2016

New 80 Metres Evening Contest

The first IRTS 80 Metres Evening Counties Contest takes place on Tuesday next, 9th February, from 20:00 to 21:00 UTC. This is an SSB-only contest, with EI and GI counties as multipliers - a format that has proved very popular in our daytime HF and VHF contests. This new one-hour evening contest provides a good opportunity for anyone new to contesting to explore the competitive side of amateur radio.

The frequencies for this contest are 3600–3650 and 3700–3775, while the upper power limit is 100W PEP. See www.irts.ie/contests for the full rules. A CW-only version of this contest is scheduled for November.

IARU Region 1 Interim Meetings

Interim meetings of IARU Region 1 Committee 4 (HF and bands below 3 MHz), Committee 5 (VHF and bands above 300 MHz) and Committee 7 (Electromagnetic Compatibility) will take place in Vienna, 15th to 17th April 2016. Committees 4 and 5 address spectrum management, band-planning and operational activities such as IARU-R1 contest rules and associated matters.

Amateur licensees in Ireland are encouraged to review the documents submitted and provide comments to the IRTS representatives who will attend the meetings. An overview of the documents is provided on the IRTS web-site at www.irts.ie/iaru-vienna

Also provided are full details of where to download the documents and how to comment. Please provide any comments you may have by 29th February 2016."

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

The 2016 AGM of the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group will take place on Monday 29th February 2016 at 8pm sharp, in the Roanmore Social & Sports Club, Cleaboy Road, Waterford.

All members are asked to attend and new members are very welcome

For up-to-date news about the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group and it's actives you can check our website www.searg.ie and you can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

ARISS contact planned for school in the UK on Thursday 11th of February at 6.10pm

ARISS offers an opportunity for students to experience the excitement of Amateur Radio by talking directly with crewmembers onboard the International Space Station. Everyone can witness how Amateur Radio and crewmembers on ISS can energize youngsters' interest in science, technology and learning.

The school will contact the ISS direct with 145.800FM downlink audible across Ireland.

The ISS callsign is presently scheduled to be GB1SS. The astronaut making contact is UK Astronaut Timothy Peake KG5BVI.

It should be possible to receive the signal on even a handheld radio. Only the astronaut downlink side will be audible which will be the answers to questions asked by students, The pass over Ireland and the UK will take about 10 minutes.

South Dublin ATV Repeater

Ronnie EI9ED, writes to let us know that the South Dublin ATV Repeater is operational and can be seen in Dublin and up the east coast. It transmits a picture of Dublin bay and weather conditions.

Transceivers, operating on 1.2GHz, 2.3GHz and 10GHz will be on sale at the Coolmine Rally, Sunday February 14th, keep an eye out for Ronnie EI9ED.

Return of Cups and Trophies

The 2016 IRTS AGM will be held on the weekend of 9th and 10th April. Jim Holohan EI4HH Awards Manager, requests that the 2015 Cup and Trophy award holders return their awards as soon as possible, this makes it much easier for the Awards Committee to prepare them for the new recipients. Cups and Trophies can be returned to any IRTS Committee Member. Also, anybody who intends to enter a project for the Folan Shield (home constructed equipment) should familiarise themselves with the rules and

requirements in order to avoid embarrassment to all parties on the day.

Coolmine Rally February 2016

The Coolmine Rally operated by the Phoenix Amateur Radio Club will take place at Coolmine Community School, Grove Road, Dublin 15, D15 FW97 on Sunday 14th February 2016. Doors open 10am.

Contact Tony on 087 2439997 for enquiries, tables etc.

Limerick Radio Club

The AGM of Limerick Radio Club will take place on Thursday 11th February at 7.30pm in the Limerick Institute of technology. All members are requested to attend.

DX News

Bob W7YAQ will operate holiday-style from Easter Island from 10th to 14th February. He will use the callsign CE0Y/W7YAQ and will be on CW and RTTY. QSL via his home call or Logbook of The World.

Wim ON6DX is making another visit to Togo in West Africa. He will reactivate his 5V7TH callsign from 10th to 22nd February. He will be active on 40m to 6m CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL to his home call.

Eric OE4AAC will be in Mauritius from 11th February to 1st March using the callsign 3B8HD. He will be mainly on CW and asks for QSLs via ClubLog OQRS.

Members of the Radio Club Argentino will be on the air from Carlini Base in the South Shetland Islands during the last few weeks of February. They will sign LU1ZI and the IOTA reference number is AN-010.

IRTS AGM 9/10 April 2016

The IRTS website has been updated to give details of the workshops which will run in conjunction with this year's AGM. From Contests to Moonbounce there is lots of interest to everyone. See www.irts.ie/agm

Items for inclusion in next week's Radio News can be submitted via e-mail to "newsteam /at/ irts / dot / ie" for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Urgent news items for the radio news may be telephoned to the radio news editor, Aidan, EI7JC on 085 7100511.

Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Thursday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday's bulletin.

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